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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 OMB-01 SSM-03 MCT-01 EB-08 /101 W
----------020452 096047 /12
R 011550Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2283
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3642

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PLO
SUBJECT: FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S ACCOUNT OF DE GUIRINGAUD'S VISIT TO EGYPT.

1. MET TODAY WITH FRENCH AMBASSADOR JACQUES SENARD FOR BRIEFING ON RECENT DE GUIRINGAUD VISIT. I HAD BRIEFED SENARD ON SECRETARY'S VISIT PIROR DE BUIRINGAUD'S ARRIVAL, BUT SENARD REGRETTED HE UNABLE TO SEE ME UNTIL TODAY. ALTHOUGH DEPT. MAY ALREADY HAVE RECEIVED BRIEFING FROM FENCH, FOLLOWING COMMENTS BY SENARD MAY STILL BE USEFUL;

2. TALKS WITH EGYPTIANS:

(A) SENARD SAID SADAT AND FAHMY'S COMMENTS WERE GENERALLY IDENTICAL TO THOSE MADE TO SECRETARY VANCE.

(B) GENEVA: EGYPTIANS HAD ACCEPTED, ALBEIT RELUCTANTLY, IDEA GENEVA CANNOT RECONVENE UNTIL SECOND HALF OF 1977. BUT FAHMY TOUGHER THAN SADAT ON THIS POINT. FAHMY STILL PUSHED IDEA OF GOING TO UNSC IF PROSPECTS FOR GENEVA ABORT. HIS IDEA, AS EXPLAINED TO THE FRENCH, IS THAT UNSC WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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ASKED NOT FOR RESOLUTION BUT TO SET DOWN WHAT TERMS OF A PEACE SHOULD BE. IF USG VETOED SUCH EFFORT, MATTER WOULD BE TAKEN TO UNGA UNDER "UNITING FOR PEACE" RESOLUTION. FAHMY RECOGNIZED RECOURSE TO UN WOULD BE LONG PROCESS, PERHAPS TWO TO THREE YEARS, AND MIGHT NOT SUCCEED. HOWEVER, EGYPT NEEDS THIS AMOUNT OF TIME TO PREPARE ITSELF FOR NEW WAR IF PEACE PROCESS

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ABORTS.

(C) PLO: EGYPTIANS INDICATED THEY URGING PLO PARTICIPATE IN GENEVA IN CONTEXT OF RESLUTIONS 242 AND 338. HOWEVER, SOME SUPPLMENT MIGHT BE DEVELOPED FOR 242 AUTHORIZING ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PALESTINIAN STATE ON WEST BANK AND GAZA. (THEY WERE APPARENTLY UNCLEAR HOW THIS MIGHT BE DONE.) FAHMY CLAIMED HE HAD TOLD PLO LEADERSHIP THAT PARTICIPATION ON BASIS RESOLUTION 242 WOULD ENABLE PALESTINIANS INVOKE EARLIER US-SPONSORED RESOLUTION 194 CALLING FOR REPATRIATION. EGYPTIANS ALSO INDICATED THEY URGING PLO TO CHANGE NATIONAL CHARTER.

(D) ISRAELI PURPOSES: EGYPTIANS ARGUED ISRAELIS ARE NOT SERIOUS IN CLAIM THEY WANT PEACE. ISRAELIS PLACING OBSTACLES IN WAY OF PEACE PROCESS BY REFUSING RECOGNIZE PLO. BRANDING PLO AS "TERRORISTS" IS PRTEXT TO KEEP PALESTINIANS OUT AND TO POSTPONE INDEFIINTELY ANYSETTLEMENT. ISRAELIS, EGYPTIANS INSISTED, FEAR PEACE.

(E) PEACE AGREEMENT: AS EGYPTIANS HAD TOLD US, SADAT AND FAHMY SPOKE OF PEACE AGREEMENT ENDING STATE OF BELLIGERENCY. THEY AVERRED IT IMPOSSIBLE NOW TO DRAW DEFINITIVE CONCLUSIONS RE POST-PEACE AGREEMENT RELATION-SHIP THAT SHOULD EXIST BETWEEN ISRAELIS AND ARAB STATES. ARAB POPULATION (INCLUDING EGYPTIANS), THEY ARGUED, COULD NOT FOR SOME TIME TOLERATE TYPE OF DIRECT CONFIDENTIAL

EXCHANGES OF PEOPLE AND TRADE DEMANDED BY ISRAEL. IN FACT, ISRAELI DEMANDS SHOWED THEY NOT SERIOUS IN WANTING PEACE. ISRAEL IS DELIBERATELY MAKING THEM BECAUSE IT KNOWS ARABS CANNOT ACCEPT THEM.

3. TALKS WITH PLO REP FARUQ QADDUMI:

(A) DE GUIRINGAUD ALSO TALKED WITH QADDUMI AND SOME OF HIS PLO ASSOCIATES. FRENCH FOUND QADDUMI TOUGH WITH NO INCLINATION COMPROMISE. HE EXPESSED DISSAPPOINTMENT THAT PLO HAD MADE "BIG CONCESSION", WHICH WENT VIRTUALLY UNNOTICED BY ISRAEL OR INTER-NATIONAL COMMUNITY. SPECIFICALLY, PLO HAD PUBLICLY GIVEN UP CONCEPT OF SECULAR, MULTI-RACIAL STATE IN PALESTINE AND AGREED ACCEPT MINI-STATE IN WEST BANK AND GAZA AREAS EVACUATED BY ISRAEL. THIS ALREADY IMPLICIT RECONGITION OF ISRAEL QADDUMI ARGUED NEW POSITION TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM PREVIOUS PLO POLICY. IN ABSENCE SOME RESPONSE PLO COULD GO NO FURTHER.

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(B) QADDUMI REJECTED IDEA OF EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZING
RIGHT OF ISRAEL TO EXIST AT THIS TIME. CALLED THIS
PALESTINIANS LAST TRUMP CARD; TO BE PLAYED IN RETURN
FOR TANGIBLE CONCESSION. ALSO INDICATED THERE WILL BE
NO CHANGE IN NATIONAL CHARTER DURING UPCOMING PNC
MEETING IN CAIRO. SUBJECT WILL NOT EVEN
BE DISCUSSED, HE STATED, SINCE IT IS TOO DIVERISVE AN ISSUE.

(C) QADDUMI STATED PLO ACCEPTS IDEA OF LINK BETWEEN
JORDAN AND A PLAESTINE STATE BECAUSE, SINCE SUCH
ASSOCIATION IS "NATURAL." THERE ALREADY A MILLION
PALESTINIANS ON EAST BANK. HOWEVER QADDUMI STRESSED
HIS CONCEPT OF LINAGE IS RESTRICTED. EACH OF THE TWO
STATES MUST REMAIN COMPLETELY INDEPDENT, WITH
SEPARATE DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICIES. THERE SHOULD
BE NO COMMAND PASSPORTS. THERE MIGHT, HOWEVER,
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BE ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

(D) QADDUMI ALSO STATED UPCOMING PNC MEETING IN
CAIRO WILL PROBABLY TAKE SOME PREPARATORY ACTION RE
PALESTINE GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE. PERHAPS, HE TOLD FRENCH,
A PERMANENT BODY OF THE PNC WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO
DECIDE TO SET UP SUCH GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE AT A TIME
WHEN IT DEEMS IT APPROPRIATE TO DO SO.
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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